

HEART OF THE LAKES

Julie Stoneman
Associate Director

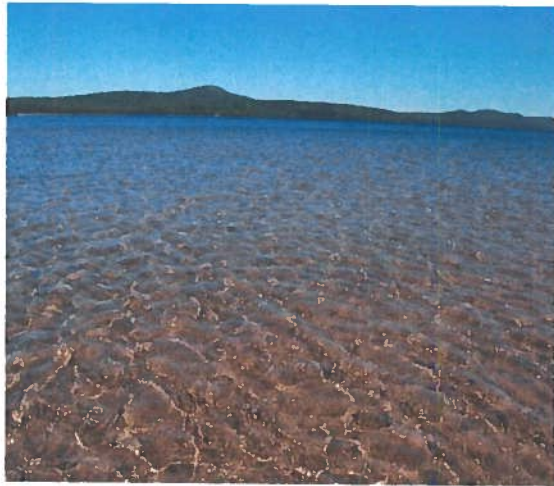


House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee | 7.10.2015



What is a land conservancy?

Land conservancies, also known as land trusts, are community-based, nonprofit organizations dedicated to the permanent protection and stewardship of natural and working lands for the public good.

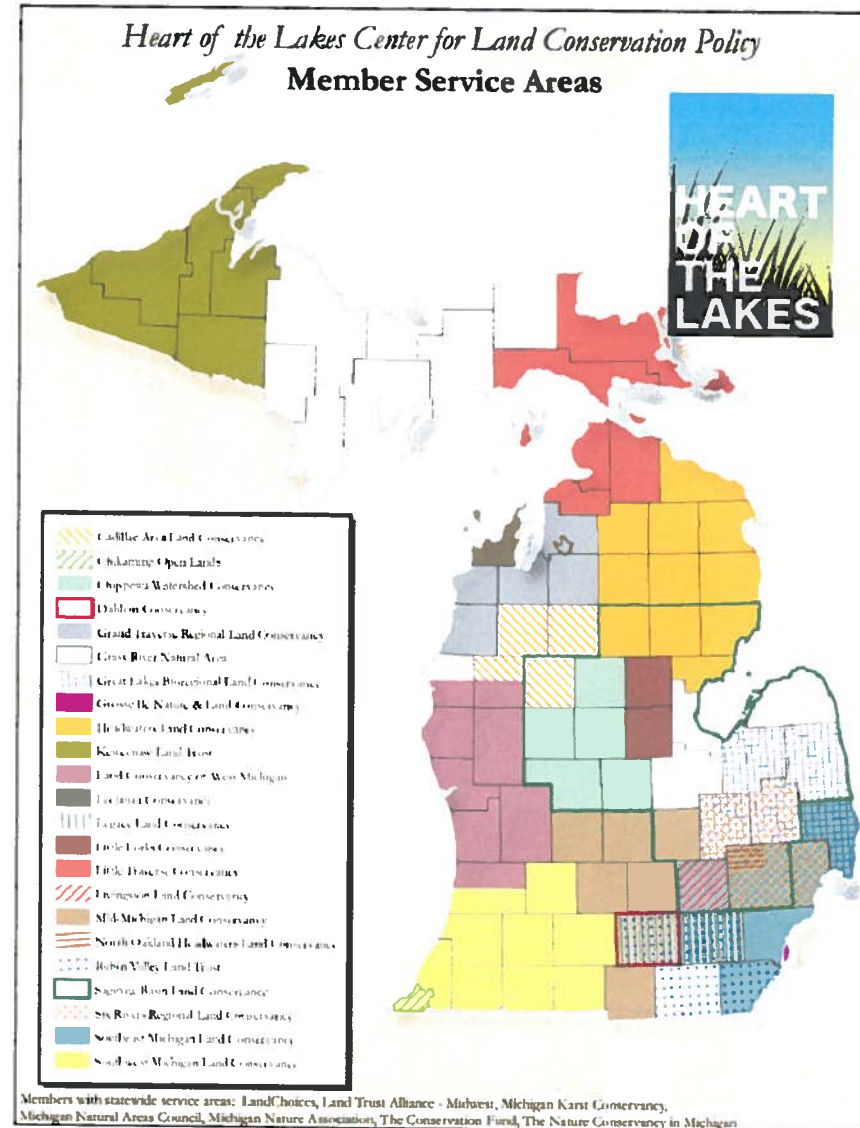


Michigan's Land Conservancies

Land conservancies use a suite of tools to permanently protect and steward land:

- Acquisition of preserves, open space – donated or purchased.
- Conservation Easements – donated or purchased.
- Community and State Assists
- Management Agreements
- Stewardship and Education

directory.heartofthelakes.org



The Growth of Michigan's Conservancies

Fueled by people's desire to preserve the open spaces and natural resources that characterize their communities across the state.

597,516 acres as of the December 31, 2014.

96,104 acres held as nature preserves or sanctuaries

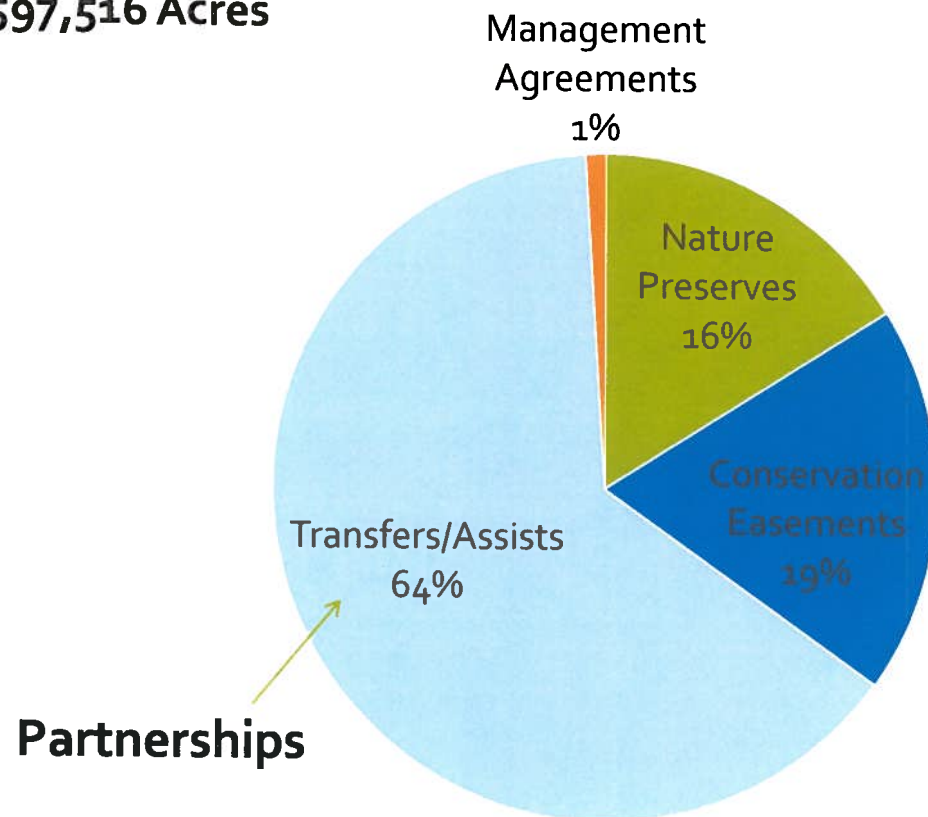
111,873 acres under conservation easement

383,638 acres transfers/assists to local governments or the state

5,901 acres under management agreement



Total All Categories
597,516 Acres





Land Conservancies: Tourism and Outdoor Recreation



Build Community – Attract Talent – Advance Priorities

Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area



Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area

- Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, Shorts Brewery, Shanty Creek Resort, Antrim County, Forest Home Township, International Mountain Bike Association, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- Consolidated fragmented holdings into a 763-acre publicly owned block. Combined trails system for hiking, biking, skiing, hunting and wildlife viewing.
- Contributes to protecting water quality in the Chain of Lakes while supporting world class mountain bike trails
- Integrate recreation assets into an overall identity and economic foundation for Bellaire area.



Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area



Getting Outdoors in Bay City



Getting Outdoors in Bay City

Outdoor Urban Recreation (O.U.R.) Bay City

- Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy, Michigan Sugar, Bay City, businesses and organizations
- Revitalizing a citywide network of outdoor recreational assets to add value to the community
- Discovery Preserve, Michigan Sugar Trails, improved boat launches for water access
- New opportunities to access nature within city boundaries while creating positive benefits for local economy



Getting Outdoors in Bay City



Partnering for Prosperity



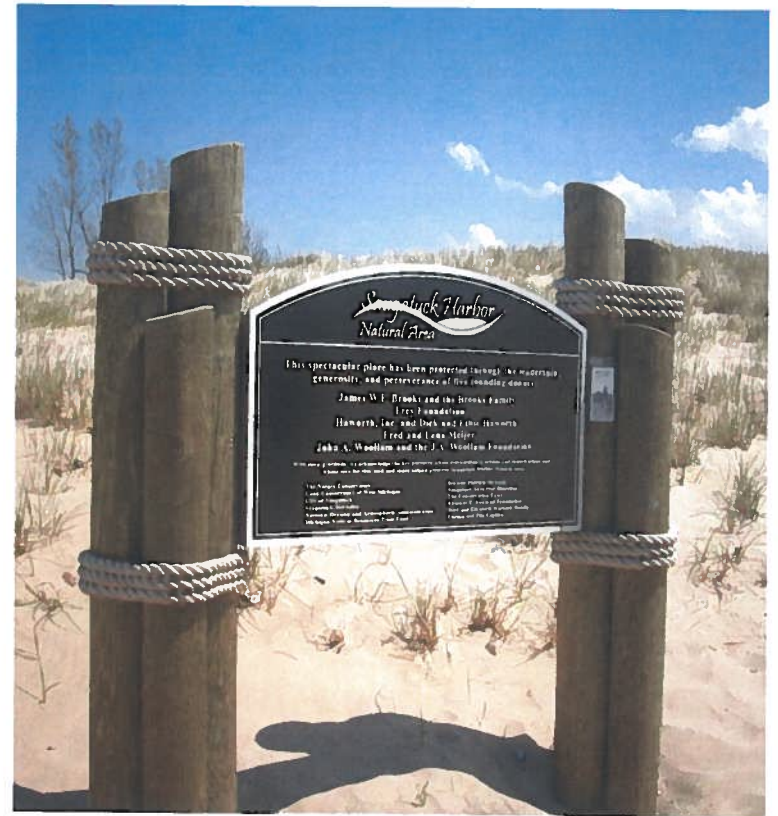
Partnering for Prosperity

Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area

- Land Conservancy of West Michigan, the City of Saugatuck, The Nature Conservancy, Foundations, community, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- LCWM and its community partners permanently protected 173-acre dune and wetland ecosystem at the mouth of the Kalamazoo River.
- Now owned by the City of Saugatuck
- 2015 Best Coastal Small Town and 2014 10 Best Weekend Summer Escape Readers' Choice Awards, USA Today



Partnering for Prosperity



Linking Land Conservation, Commerce and Local Communities



Linking Land Conservation, Commerce and Local Communities

The Big 400 Partnership

- Legacy Land Conservancy, four counties, four municipalities, three Convention and Visitors Bureaus, five Chambers of Commerce, two State Recreation Areas, and other conservation groups
- Economic development strategy links public and other conservation lands
- Promote Southeast Michigan communities, tourism and natural land preservation
- The Big 400—Small town living. Great big fun.

www.thebig400.com



Linking Land Conservation, Commerce and Local Communities



**THE
BIG
FOUR
HUNDRED**



Linking Land Conservation, Commerce and Local Communities



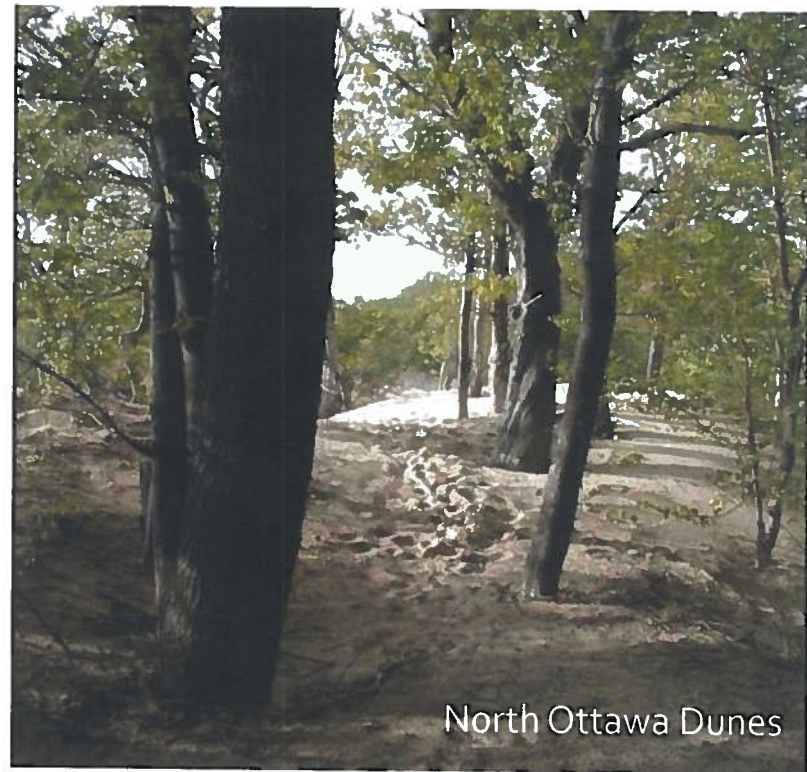
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

MNRTF a Common Partner

- Land Conservancies often assist local communities and the state on projects supported by the MNRTF

- Heart of the Lakes policy:

Protect the MNRTF and ensure revenues from the development of state-owned minerals are dedicated to conservation purposes.

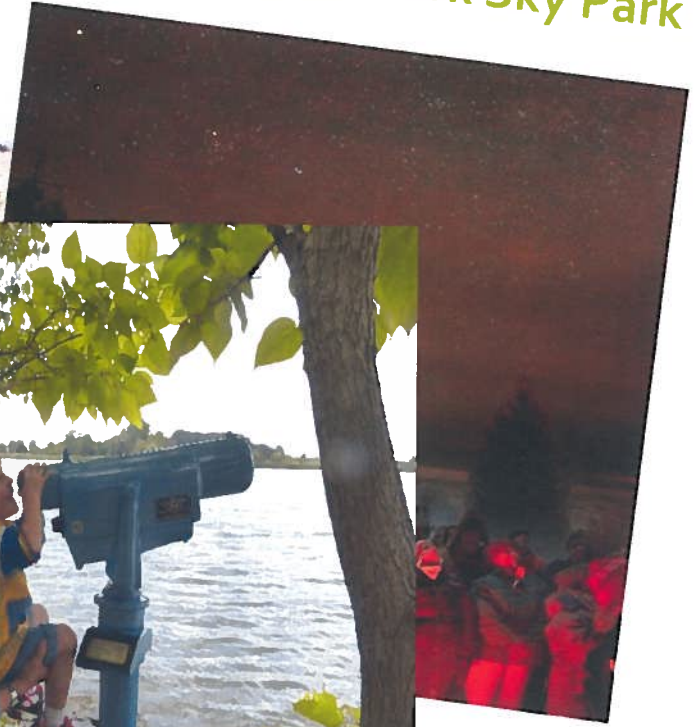
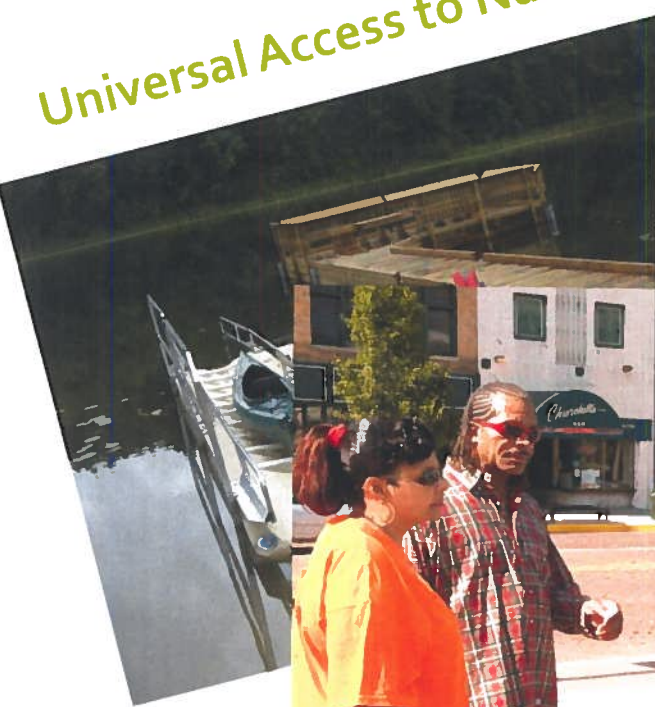


North Ottawa Dunes

Universal Access to Nature

New Life for Old Camps

International Dark Sky Park



Community Engagement

Multi-Generations



HEART OF THE LAKES CENTER FOR LAND CONSERVATION POLICY



GET TO KNOW YOUR LAND
CONSERVANCY:
directory.heartofthelakes.org

THANK
YOU! www.heartofthelakes.org

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